

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 253656
ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 DODE-00 EB-08 NSAE-00
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P 212106Z OCT 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 253656

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, IR

SUBJECT: PROJECT IBEX - GTE-SYLVANIA PROBLEMS

1. ANNE MARK OF GTE PHONED DEPOFF FROM TEHRAN RE COMPANY'S
REPORTED CURRENT PROBLEMS IN NEGOTIATING IBEX GROUND SEGMENT
CONTRACT WITH GENERAL TOUFANIAN.

2. BEGIN FYI: COMPANY PREVIOUSLY AWARDED TRAINING SEGMENT
CONTRACT, WHICH HAS BEEN SIGNED, PROCESSED AS A TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT BY DEPARTMENT (OMC CASE 99-77), AND NOW
MUST BE SENT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR APPROVAL AND SUBSEQUENTLY
TO CONGRESS FOR 30 DAY REVIEW PERIOD, THE LATTER UNDER
PROVISIONS OF SECTION 36(C), PL-94-329 (ARMS EXPORT CONTROL
ACT OF 1976), PRIOR TO FINAL APPROVAL BEING GRANTED. BEFORE
AGREEMENT GOES TO CONGRESS, WHITE HOUSE MUST REVIEW. CASE
CURRENTLY BEING PREPARED FOR SUBMISSION TO WHITE HOUSE BY
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SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 253656

DEPARTMENT. END FYI.

3. MARK ADVISES THAT GOI IMPATIENT OVER TIME IT TAKING TO
GET TRAINING CONTRACT APPROVED. SHE INDICATES COMPANY HAS
ATTEMPTED TO EXPLAIN TO GOI REASONS FOR DELAYS AND THAT
COMPANY DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO HELP EXPEDITE CASE.
HOWEVER, GOI CONTINUALLY ALLEGES GTE DRAGGING ITS FEET AND

NOT DOING ENOUGH.

4. MARK STATED LATEST GOI EXPRESSION IS THAT IT BEGINNING TO QUESTION SELECTION OF GTE AS GROUND SEGMENT CONTRACTOR, CITING COMPANY'S FAILURE THUS FAR TO PERFORM RE TRAINING SEGMENT.

5. WE ASSUME GTE CONCERN ABOUT PRESENT SITUATION IS WARRANTED. IF SO, AND IF EMBASSY CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE, SUGGEST POSSIBLE EMBASSY APPROACH TO TOUFANIAN, AS FOLLOW-UP TO USAT APPROACH TO GOI, WHICH DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS IS IMMINENT, AND ADVISE THAT DEPARTMENT MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO MOVE MUNITIONS CASE ALONG. FACT THAT CASE MUST BE REVIEWED AT HIGH LEVELS IN DEPARTMENT AND WHITE HOUSE IS REASON FOR DELAYS IN ITS REACHING HILL. CASE EXPECTED TO REACH WHITE HOUSE SHORTLY.

6. EMBASSY MAY ASSURE GOI THAT AS FAR AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE GTE FROM OUTSET HAS DONE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO APPRISE USG OF ITS ACTIVITIES IN IRAN AND OF ITS PROGRESS IN PURSUIT OF CONTRACTS, OF THE REQUIREMENTS PLACED UPON IT BY GOI, AND OF THE NECESSITY TO APPROVE CONTRACT SOON AS POSSIBLE. THAT IS, COMPANY IN TOUCH WITH USG EVEN BEFORE CONTRACT SUBMITTED FOR REVIEW, AND CONTINUES TO PUSH HARD IN EFFORT TO SEE CASE PROCESSED EXPEDITIOUSLY.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 253656

7. SHOULD GOI REBUT WITH STATEMENT TO EFFECT THAT PREVIOUS TRAINING SEGMENT CONTRACTOR, ROCKWELL, NEVER EXPERIENCED SUCH DELAYS IN OBTAINING USG APPROVALS, EMBASSY MAY NOTE THAT WHEN DEPARTMENT APPROVED ORIGINAL ROCKWELL CONTRACT IN 1975, REQUIREMENT FOR HILL REVIEW DID NOT EXIST. FOLLOW-ON EXTENSIONS TO THAT CONTRACT, HAVE BEEN APPROVED WITH NO REQUIREMENT FOR EXTENSIVE REVIEW OUTSIDE OFFICE MUNITIONS CONTROL. VANCE

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Sent Date: 21-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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